Power Breakdown in North India

1476. DR. P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) .whether it is a fact that a serious and unprecedented power breakdown overtook the whole of Northern India during the first week of January, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any formal enquiry was instituted into such unseasonal breakdown;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what specific steps have been taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such devastating power failure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) A grid disturbance occurred in Northern Regional Power Grid on 6th January, 2000 affecting power supply in parts of Northern India.

(b) The overdrawal from the grid by States /Constituents resulting in operation of Northern Regional Grid at low system frequency caused the grid disturbance. During first week of January, 2000 intense cold wave conditions were prevailing resulting in high power demand in Northern Region while the availability was not commensurate with the demand due to less thermal generation on account of forced outages of machines in Central /State sectors, less hydro generation due to poor water inflows.

(c) to (e) No formal enquiry was instituted. A meeting was immediately taken after the grid disturbance with all heads of Power Utilities /Constituents of Northern Region. The following steps were suggested:

(i) The system frequency be maintained at all time above 49.0 Hz.

(ii) All the under-frequency relays be restored/revived to their original settings as per the recommendation of NREB to provide adequate load relief at the designated frequency levels.

(iii) All the States/Constituents to restrict their drawal from the grid to the drawal schedule given to them on daily basis.

(iv) Adequate shunt capacitors be installed/added by all the constituents in their respective systems to maintain normal voltage profile.

Demand and supply of power in NER

1477. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total demand and supply of power in the NER at present;

(b) what is the present power generation, district-wise;

(c) the estimated demand and supply of power during the next five years; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to fill the gap of demand and supply of power in NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The power supply position in North-Eastern Region during April-January, 2000 is given below:

	EnergyMU net	Peak MW net
Requirement	4141 Peak demand	959
Availability	4207 Peak met	932
Surplus %age	66 Deficit	—27
surplus	1.6 %age deficit	2.8

(b) State-wise/station-wise energy generation in North-Eastern Region during April-January, 2000 is given in Statement. *(See* below),

(c) As per the Mid Term appraisal, an all India capacity addition